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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT ROUTING SLIP TO: **ACTION** INFO DATE INITIAL 1 DCI 2 DDCI 3 EXDIR 4 D/ICS 5 DDI 6 DDA 7 DDO 8 DDS&T 9 Chm/NIC 10 GC 11 IG 12 Compt 13 D/OLL 14 D/PAO 15 D/PERS 16 VC/NIC 17 18 19 20 21 22 SUSPENSE Date Remarks Please advise ES if further dissem should be made.

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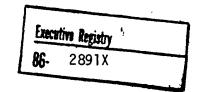
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

June 25, 1986



M - 86 - 22

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM:

James Carller III

SUBJECT:

workead Yosts

This is to request your help in strengthening procedures for reviewing and approving overhead costs of federally assisted programs. Based on our inquiries and reviews made by two of the Inspectors General (IGs), we are concerned that overhead costs charged to Federal programs by local governments and others may be excessive. The problem may be attributable in part to alternative treatment of cost allocation plans under our Circular A-87, "Cost principles for State and local governments."

The circular requires grantees to support overhead through cost allocation plans showing how the costs will be distributed. However, the circular does not require the cost allocation plans of local governments to be submitted or reviewed, nor does it set any time requirements for approval of the plans. The plans are to be retained at the local government for review by a designated Federal agency, unless the agency asks that they be submitted. States, on the other hand, are required to submit plans for negotiation and approval.

The IG audits disclosed that present policies result in a hit-or-miss review of cost allocation plans. It is possible, therefore, that millions of dollars in overhead may be improperly charged to Federal assistance programs because reviews of cost allocation plans are not made or are not made effectively. For example, the HUD IG found that three cities improperly allocated about \$2.6 million dollars to operating departments based on unsupported estimates or on inequitable or unsupported bases. In another instance, two central service plans contained duplicate costs and costs of questionable allowability totaling \$4 million. The IG recommended that the Department establish formal procedures for the submission, review, and approval of cost allocation plans. The IG further recommended that the review be documented, showing the scope of review, costs reviewed, and deficiencies noted.

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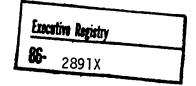
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